

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims. Please amend claim 1 and cancel claims 7-9 as follows:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A method for managing a multi-tiered resource system, the method comprising:

automatically determining if a resource tier is in compliance with a management policy, wherein the management policy includes requiring that an expiration date of the resource tier occur after a maintenance date; ~~and~~

if the resource tier is not in compliance with the management policy, automatically increasing available capacity in containers in order to bring the containers in compliance with the management policy; and

calculating the expiration date of the resource tier, wherein calculating the expiration date of the resource tier includes calculating a life expectancy of each container belonging to the resource tier, and wherein calculating the life expectancy of the containers includes adjusting the life expectancy of the containers to account for container lead-time.

Claim 2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein increasing available capacity in containers includes allocating additional capacity to containers belonging to the resource tier until the resource tier is in compliance with the management policy.

Claim 3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein allocating additional capacity to the containers includes utilizing a capacity reserve belonging to the resource tier.

Claim 4. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein allocating additional capacity to the containers includes utilizing available capacity from other containers in the resource system.

Claim 5. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein allocating additional capacity to the containers includes allocating additional capacity to containers of higher importance before allocating additional capacity to containers of lower importance.

Claims 6-9. (cancelled)

Claim 10. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the resource tier cannot be brought in compliance with the management policy, alerting that the resource tier is not in compliance with the management policy.

Claim 11. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein increasing available capacity in containers includes

compressing data within the resource tier until the resource tier is in compliance with the management policy.

Claims 12-34. (cancelled)